

Commander, Army North Command, shall be an officer in the Army National Guard of the United States.

(b) **COMMANDER OF AIR FORCE NORTH COMMAND.**—The officer serving in the position of Commander, Air Force North Command, shall be an officer in the Air National Guard of the United States.

(c) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that, in assigning officers to the command positions specified in subsections (a) and (b), the President should afford a preference in assigning officers in the Army National Guard of the United States or Air National Guard of the United States, as applicable, who have served as the adjutant general of a State.

SA 1502. Mr. REID (for Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1233, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 61, line 20, strike “2023” and insert “2017”.

On page 61, line 23, strike “2023” and insert “2017”.

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 402. PRIORITIES FOR CERTAIN RESEARCH INITIATIVES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(hh) **RESEARCH INITIATIVES.**—To the extent that such projects relate to the mission of the Federal agency, each Federal agency participating in the SBIR program or STTR program shall encourage the submission of applications for support of projects relating to security, energy, transportation, or improving the security and quality of the water supply of the United States to such program.”

(b) **SUNSET.**—Effective October 1, 2014, section 9(hh) of the Small Business Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, is repealed.

SEC. 403. REPORT ON SBIR AND STTR PROGRAM GOALS.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) **ANNUAL REPORT ON SBIR AND STTR PROGRAM GOALS.**—

“(1) **DEVELOPMENT OF METRICS.**—The head of each Federal agency required to participate in the SBIR program or the STTR program shall develop metrics to evaluate the effectiveness, and the benefit to the people of the United States, of the SBIR program and the STTR program of the Federal agency that—

“(A) are science-based and statistically driven;

“(B) reflect the mission of the Federal agency; and

“(C) include factors relating to the economic impact of the programs.

“(2) **EVALUATION.**—The head of each Federal agency described in paragraph (1) shall conduct an annual evaluation using the metrics developed under paragraph (1) of—

“(A) the SBIR program and the STTR program of the Federal agency; and

“(B) the benefits to the people of the United States of the SBIR program and the STTR program of the Federal agency.

“(3) **REPORT.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The head of each Federal agency described in paragraph (1) shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and the Administrator an annual report describing in detail the results of an evaluation conducted under paragraph (2).

“(B) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.**—The head of each Federal agency described in

paragraph (1) shall make each report submitted under subparagraph (A) available to the public online.

“(C) **DEFINITION.**—In this paragraph, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

“(i) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives.”

SEC. 404. COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) **COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS.**—All funds awarded, appropriated, or otherwise made available in accordance with subsection (f) or (n) must be awarded pursuant to competitive and merit-based selection procedures.”

SA 1503. Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 419, strike line 10 and all that follows through page 420, line 2, and insert the following:

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2281(d) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “the Secretary of Defense” and inserting “the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Transportation, in their capacity as co-chairs of the National Executive Committee for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing.”; and

(B) by striking “the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Congress”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following new paragraph (2):

“(2) In preparing each report required under paragraph (1), the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Transportation, in their capacity as co-chairs of the National Executive Committee for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing, shall consult with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Secretary of Homeland Security.”

SA 1504. Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1390, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title V, add the following:

SEC. 524. MODIFICATION OF BASIS FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS IN AMOUNTS OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE SELECTED RESERVE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 16131(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by strik-

ing “equal to” and all that follows and inserting “not less than the percentage by which—

“(A) the average cost of undergraduate tuition in the United States, as determined by the National Center for Education Statistics, for the last academic year preceding the beginning of the fiscal year for which the increase is made, exceeds

“(B) the average cost of undergraduate tuition in the United States, as so determined, for the academic year preceding the academic year described in subparagraph (A).”

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2009, and shall apply to adjustments in amounts of educational assistance for members of the Selected Reserve that are made for fiscal years beginning on or after that date.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a markup of S. 1415, the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Jean Bordewich at the Rules and Administration Committee, 202-224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 13, 2009, at 2 p.m. in room 325 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on July 13, 2009, at 10 a.m., in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask unanimous consent that LCDR Ryan Farris, Mr. Yariv Pierce, and Mr. Stratton Kirton be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of the week on the behalf of Senator NELSON of Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator DODD, I ask unanimous consent the military fellow in his office, CPT Lindsay George, be granted the